

**REMARKS**

Applicants have amended the specification to include cross-references to related applications. No new matter has been added. Applicants have also canceled claims 1-22, and added new claims 23-34. Accordingly, claims 23-34 remain pending in the application.

**CONCLUSION**

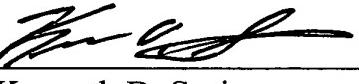
In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner allow claims 23-34, and pass the application to issue. In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Kenneth D. Springer (Reg. No. 39,843) at (703) 715-0870 to discuss these matters.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0238 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

VOLENTINE FRANCOS, P.L.L.C.

Date: 22 March 2004

By: 

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